

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
BEFORE THE BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES

Applicant(s): K. KATSURA, et al.

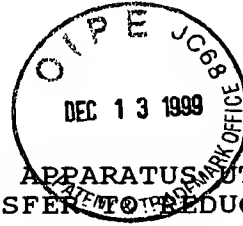
Serial No.: 07/985,141

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For: GRAPHIC PROCESSING APPARATUS UTILIZING
IMPROVED DATA TRANSFER TO REDUCE MEMORY SIZE

Group: 2772

Examiner: M. Zimmerman



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REPLY BRIEF

Assistant Commissioner
for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

December 13, 1999

Sir:

This Reply Brief is being filed in response to the
Supplemental Examiner's Answer dated October 12, 1999.

NEW POINT OF ARGUMENT

The Examiner contends that Appellants' failed to
specifically identify an error that is a valid basis for the
reissue claims.

ARGUMENTS

With respect to the new point of argument wherein the
Examiner contends that Appellants failed to specifically
identify an error for that is a valid basis for the present
reissue claims, the following is provided.

It appears that the Examiner has not fully reviewed the
claims of Appellants' application relative to the Supplemental
Reissue Declaration. It also appears that the Examiner does
not fully understand the practice as set forth in 37 CFR

§1.175(a)(3) and (5).

37 CFR §1.175(a)(1) specifically provides that Applicants must state "at least one error being relied upon as the basis for the reissue" (emphasis added). In the present situation, the at least one error stated as the basis for the reissue was to correct an error in the broadness of particular language in the claims. The language used in the claims was not as broad as it could have been. An example of such broad claim language is provided in the Supplemental Reissue Declaration wherein it was described that the claims "could have been broaden to simply recite that the invention provides a first bus having m lines interconnecting a memory and a memory controller and a second bus having n lines interconnecting a data processor and the memory controller, wherein n and m are integers and n is greater than m and that the memory controller transfers m bits of data to and from the memory in a time shared fashion and transfers n bits of data in parallel to and from the data processor". This passage in the Supplemental Reissue Declaration was intended to set forth the broad nature to which the point of novelty of Appellants' invention could have been directed.

Claims having language corresponding to the breath described above is set forth, for example, in claims 59 and 63. All of the claims of Appellants' application contain language of similar breath at the point of novelty. Using claim 59 as an example, claim 59 is directed to a memory controller which controls transfer of data between a memory and a processor and between the memory and a display. The memory controller recited in claim 59 includes m-bit terminals

for transferring m-bit data between the memory and the memory controller (the m-bit terminals correspond to the first bus described in the Supplemental Reissue Declaration) and an n-bit interface for transferring n-bit data between the processor and the memory controller (the n-bit interface corresponds to the second bus described in the Supplemental Reissue Declaration). The memory controller includes a first converting means for converting between data of plural sets of data of m-bits via the m-bit terminals and data of n-bits via the n-bit interface (the converting means accomplishes the transfer of m-bits of data to and from the memory in a timed shared fashion and n-bits of data in parallel to and from the data processor as described in the Supplemental Reissue Declaration). Claim 63 recites similar features.

Thus, it is readily apparent upon reviewing at least claims 59 and 63 and the Supplemental Reissue Declaration that Appellants have properly identified an error that is a valid basis for the present reissue claims. Accordingly, the rejection under 35 USC §251 is not appropriate.

SUMMARY

Based on the above, Appellants submit that the Examiner's final rejection of the claims under 35 USC §251 on an alleged defective Reissue Declaration and the other rejections of the claims under 35 USC §103 are not properly founded in law and Appellants respectfully request that the Board reverse the Examiner's final rejection.

To the extent necessary, applicants petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. section 1.136. Please

charge any shortage in the fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account No. 01-2135 (Case No. 500.26967R00) and please credit any excess fees to such Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



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